BAD COMPANY DESTROYS THE HEART

Living amongst the sinful kills the heart, never mind living amongst the kuffār! Their kufr initially leaves dashes and traces upon the heart that over time become engravings and carvings that are nearly impossible to remove.

They can destroy the person's fitrah to a point of no return, so that his heart's doubts and desires entrap him fully.

In the hadīth of the man who killed ninety-nine people and decided to repent, the scholar told him,

"GO TO THE LAND OF SUCH AND SUCH, FOR IN IT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WORSHIP ALLAH. WORSHIP ALLAH WITH THEM AND DO NOT RETURN TO YOUR LAND, FOR IT IS A LAND OF EVIL"
[Sahīh Muslim]

Jarīr Ibn Abdillāh (رضي الله عنه) said that,

Allah's Messenger (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said,

"I DISASSOCIATE MYSELF FROM EVERY MUSLIM WHO LIVES AMONGST THE MUSHRIKĪN. THEY SHOULD NOT SEE EACH OTHER'S TENT FIRES"
[Hasan – reported by Abū Dāwūd and at-Tirmidhī]

Even if one were to spend all his hours at a masjid in prayer, dhikr, and study of the religion, while living amongst Muslims who reside amid kuffār and abandon jihād, then such a person would only be establishing the strongest proof against himself and his sin.

Also, Abū Mūsā (رضي الله عنه) said that,

Allah's Messenger (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said,

"THE SIMILITUDE OF GOOD COMPANY AND BAD COMPANY IS THAT OF THE MUSK PERFUMER AND THE IRONSMITH. EITHER THE PERFUMER OFFERS YOU SOME MUSK, OR YOU BUY SOME FROM HIM, OR YOU SMELL A PLEASANT ODOR. AS FOR THE IRONSMITH, EITHER HE BURNS YOUR CLOTHES, OR YOU SMELL A REPUGNANT ODOR"
[Al-Bukhārī and Muslim]

Thus, the sinful company affects you whether you desire so or not. And of the worst of sins in modern times is that of qu'ūd (abandonment of jihād), for jihād now is fard 'ayn (an obligation upon each individual). Then how can one be pleased with the company of the jihād abandoners?

Shaykhul-Islām Ibn Taymiyyah (رحيم الله) said,

"THE CRUX OF HIJRAH IS TO ABANDON SIN AND ITS PEOPLE, INCLUDING HAJR (ABANDONMENT/ AVOIDANCE) OF THE CALLERS TO BID'AH, THE SINFUL, AND THOSE WHO INTERMINGLE WITH THEM OR AID THEM. SIMILARLY, ONE WHO ABANDONS JIHĀD – THE DEED WITHOUT WHICH HE CAN ACHIEVE NO MASLAHAH – SHOULD BE PUNISHED BY HAJR, SINCE HE DID NOT ASSIST THE MUSLIMS IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PIETY. AND SO, THE ZUNĀH (FORNICATORS/ ADULTERERS), LŪTIYYAH (SODOMITES), ABANDONERS OF JIHĀD, AHLUL-BIDA' (PEOPLE OF RELIGIOUS INNOVATIONS), ALCOHOLICS, ARE ALL HARMFUL FOR THE RELIGION OF ISLAM, AND INTERMINGLING WITH THEM IS ALSO HARMFUL. THEY DO NOT ASSIST IN RIGHTEOUSNESS NOR PIETY. WHOEVER DOES NOT ABANDON THEM HAS THUS LEFT AN OBLIGATION AND FALLEN INTO A PROHIBITION"
[Majmū' al-Fatāwā]

Are you pleased to intermingle with those who Shaykhul-Islām mentioned after the zunāh and lūtiyyah, and before ahlul-bida' and the alcoholics? Wallāhi, they destroy the religion of the person until he finds himself in Hellfire?